

Peace and Serenity? or Evil and Hate?

This is the issue, fellows and brothers of Virginia. Do we not remember the peaceful days when the birds welcomed the bright and golden morning, when the plough was out of the earth, and when the plough in order, and the team well harnessed, led, the stable-yard, and under the guidance of the faithful ploughman went to the field to follow the generous soil, while the seedman scattered wide the fine grain of the future crop that was to cover the land with waving fields and ultimately to fill the capacious garner and joy amongst the family which looked to him for support and for the consolations that are sure to attend the providential forecast of that individual who may be assuredly styled "the chosen man of God?"

Who does not treasure up in his happy reminiscences these things of his early days? Ah, yes; that sweet hum of the bee that goes forth to gather from flowers the essence of sweets, and to convey them, stored on his yellow legs, to the "hive"—that dear emblem of industry and economy that has come down to simple, pious hearts from the days Biblical to the present time? Who remembers not these things delicious, blended with the brightest and best-remembered incidents of our lives?

Ah, yes; the generous glebe falling on the other side, the gale rustling, moves upon it with his eager hurn, gathering up the crop of winter food which Nature has stored for them, and even the greedy crow finds excess for his appetite in what the plough uncovers while preparing the earth for the tiller.

Sweet seasons—interesting preparation for the new season and the new coming crop that is to bless mankind and bring abundance and joy to the next winter's harvest.

Do we understand and appreciate these joys—these cheerful successions of the seasons—and that beneficence which a merciful Providence causes to descend upon mankind? It is a thing we should understand and fully appreciate.

Fit is the time for its application. It is not possible that things like these can be appreciated or enjoyed without quiet and serenity. We must be in the enjoyment of rest, and our homes must be bright and cheerful. Our wives and daughters must be in and around all that secures to us love and purity and safety. If they are not happy, how can we be? If they are not free from apprehension, how can we be? If debt is pressing, and we know not how long we may be undisturbed, what must be the condition of the husbands and the lovers?

There can be no peace in such a community as that.

But give us rest and security. Leave the tillers to the assurance that the result of their labor will be gathered; that the gains of industry will come; that there will be plenty; that the young, festive, and joyous must be cheered by the gentle and contented smile of age. Let these follow the gathering season, and close the door of winter nights with the merry laugh and the happy certainty of abundance and quiet, and there is the blessed community, the pious and the good, of the land of civilization.

What now, friends, is the turbulent, the troublesome, picture in society which bears this pleasant view and smears it over like the haggard painting of a bad dream?

We'll tell you. An impaired public credit which falls like a blight upon the private credit of the body politic—which, like the diffused evil spread by witches and marplots, casts a willing and sickening influence over all nature, and causes the fairest scenes of human happiness and prosperity to be succeeded by the gloom of miasm and of fever, the afflictions of plague, and the blight of contagion—here, indeed, you have the opposite of that scene which has been faintly portrayed above.

Now, what would we not all give to live and always to reside in a happy community like that we have alluded to above? And what, dear friends, would we not sacrifice rather than to be translated to the miserable realm where we would know and be surrounded by the scenes that would be sure to exist in the land of disturbance and of evil, such as that we have endeavored to describe in the second picture?

The first is the sure and undoubted consequence of that peace and rest which must come from the peace-settlement of the public debt of Virginia. The establishment of the public credit upon a firm foundation under good government will unquestionably bring peace and ease to our people all over the State. It will give to our homes and our households that serenity which favors happiness, fosters virtue, gives to culture abundance, and to society honor and independence, which are indispensable to the maintenance of civilization and refinement amongst men.

The contemplation of this picture, and its peace, social happiness, and dignity at once brings in contrast its opposite, that grows out of disturbance and bad passions. Of course the breaking down of the public credit, the injury of the private credit, and the disturbance of social order, the course of industry and commerce, which comes from agitation for the furtherance of vicious policies and seditious objects, must work an amount of discord and outrage which cannot be exaggerated in their logical apprehensions.

The issue is fairly presented between these two phases of life. A man who has high debauched the noble State of Virginia, and who is still bent on his own advancement, if it should end in her ruin. This is our condition. Virginia must save herself and crush WILLIAM MAHON, or she must sink into ignominy, while he takes control of her and brings upon her such fate as assuredly Virginia would never willingly see fall upon any body of men on earth.

The issue is made up. Gallant and able Virginians are struggling with might and main to protect their State. Assuredly such devotion—such heroism—as they display should triumph. We shall see on the 14th of November. Certainly such kindness as Virginia showed to WILLIAM MAHON should spare her from his ruinous hands. But what do we see? People of Virginia, remember that in the schemes to disrupt Virginia and break up her law for settling her public debt—a righteous, just, and liberal measure offered to Virginia by the public creditor—General MAHON has sought by his most adroit strategies to combine with a part of white society the poor children of nature, who he thought might be easily deluded, and made to oppose the wisest and most honest and most beneficent measures by the persuasive power of personal beguilement.

But is it possible that a strategy like this

involving an act of indecency to people and government, can succeed? Certainly not. It is a shallow device that counts upon such success.

Virginians know the true character of their Commonwealth and what is essential to maintain its peace, prosperity, and dignity. Even the African knows too well the general interests to combine to betray them. The struggle that is upon us will end in the vindication of the State and placing her again in peace and all her people in their happy homes, fortified in their abundance and security.

A Wonder of the Age. The "peace settlement" of the public debt was passed by a constitutional majority of both houses of the last Legislature. It met the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt.

The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State.

The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability.

The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising.

It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense.

And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues.

The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition.

MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt.

For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

DISTINGUISHED CANNIVERS IN THE CITY.—The following distinguished gentlemen, who are amongst the leading State canvassers at the present time, have been in the city in the last two days: Governor JAMES L. KEMPER, General W. H. F. LEE, Judge H. C. ALLEN, Hon. W. W. BERRY, Major A. H. DREWRY, Dr. J. L. M. CURRY, Dr. W. D. QUENBERRY, Hon. W. F. C. GREGORY, Major JOHN W. DANIEL, and others.

Colonel STOVALL not long ago urged the importation of a cargo of Chinese to Danville and thereabout. He then preferred them greatly to the negroes. The Danville Post is calling upon the Colonel to bring on a cargo of the "heavenly Chinese." He is slow in a matter of such moment.

The Virginia State Agricultural Society Transactions—Current Series. (SUPPLEMENTAL TO OCTOBER NO.) ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT. OFFICE OF THE VIRGINIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY. RICHMOND, October 7, 1879.

To the People of Virginia: The Annual Fair of our Society will be held on its grounds, in close proximity to the corporate limits of this city, on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st instant, under circumstances far more encouraging than have been.

In the exercise of a far-seeing judgment, and most commendable zeal in behalf of the great agricultural cause which we seek to advance as inseparably connected with the interests which they respectively represent, the officers of the various transportation lines have agreed to run excursions on the great trunk railroads at rates so low that all may come. For several years past the attendance at our Fairs has been large, but it must be admitted that a majority of those present were from the cities, drawn together by the attractions we were able to present; and it has been a matter of regret to the Executive Committee that the farmers of our State have not attended in greater numbers. I am aware that they have for years past labored under greater disadvantages than any other class, and that from a succession of discouraging seasons, with the loss of their labor, and consequent loss of their credit, and comparatively less ability to carry on their operations have been obliged to borrow—if indeed they could borrow at all—upon inconvenient terms and at unreasonable rates, so that they have some reason for being depressed, but none for being disheartened. They should remember that they are the Commonwealth, the one upon which all others depend. It is a fallacy to suppose there is not as much profit in the cultivation of Virginia lands to-day as there was before the war, and there is no necessity for the citizens of our State (especially the younger men) upon whom their future depends) deserting her at this hour. Emerging as she did, with shattered fortunes, from a most desolating war of four years' duration, all that we have since experienced is nothing more than we might reasonably have expected, and today we are in the midst of the near approach of more prosperous times, we have much to encourage us. It is true that a large portion of our lands in East Virginia are not so rich as those of the far West, but our proximity to market, with a salubrious climate and the best society, make them more valuable than property that they are the easily doled with the means which we enjoy—especially such as were originally of good soil. Before the war the opinion was held by many of Virginia's best farmers that it was less expensive to improve land of this character than to cut down and to clear up lands of greater fertility, and since we have then had less cause for complaint, I see no reason why capital and enterprise should not be made to pay as well in the improvement of our lands, such as need it, as in any other way; and when the present transportation rates, which discriminate so much in favor of the western producer, are equalized (as most surely will be the case) we will have less cause for complaint.

There are other portions of Virginia which are amongst the most favored of the world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

Be all this, however, as it may, it is eminently proper that the farmers of our State should come en masse to our approaching Fair to take counsel together. The large landholders who, with the loss of their labor, feel that they are unable to utilize their possessions, will see by an open market all the various lands which they own, and how one man may acquire as much as three or four before. The cattle-raiser, when he sees the improvement in breeds, will understand how much more profitably he can operate by making proper selections of his stock, and the farmer who has heretofore neglected all upon his corn and none at all, will see how much more he can be destroyed by a drought, or some other fatality at any time before their maturity, and leave him without revenue for a whole year, may well discuss the propriety of diversified crops, which afford him employment all the year, and so forth. There are other considerations which should bring you to the capital at least once in every year. The country people and the town people should mingle together, that every feeling of antagonism may be dissipated, and each may know what he owes to the other, and that the mutual dependence upon the other will be certain to the country and the town, and permanent success. All should be imbued with the idea of making our capital a great place—large enough to pay half the taxes of the State, and liberal enough to donate five or ten thousand dollars annually to our Society for the holding of a Fair creditable alike to the State and to the city. And why not? Since the State has a population of 1,000,000, Louisville, Baltimore, Macon, Atlanta, New Orleans, and other cities in something like proportionate amounts I cannot name. All is done in the exercise of a sound discretion, and with remunerative results. To the old men of the country we say that we may be encouraged by your presence, and to the young men we especially plead to come and join our Society, so that at the proper time we may, by our numbers and influence, obtain from the Legislature all the appropriations for the purchase of land, and for the purchase of the State's guarantee of its success; for the erection of a museum, that the minerals and products of our State may be properly displayed, and for the institution of a chemical department, so that the tillers of the soil may be hereafter regarded as men; but in the wood and drawers of water? With the aid of such information as this department can impart, not only as to the constituents of their soils, but as to the requisites essential to the growth of all the various products. Ours may appear and is a calling as well worthy of the best efforts of the mind as the muscle of man, and the skill of the hand, in which we are entitled to the appellation of benefactor as the able jurist, the skillful physician, or the distinguished representative of any class.

I have served the Society as its chief officer for the past three years (with less advantage to it than I had wished, but, nevertheless, to the best of my ability, and being constitutionally ineligible for another term, I have thought that I might, with propriety, make this my last appeal in behalf of the great agricultural interest of my State, to which I have devoted the best years of my life, and to which I am sincerely attached, with the hope that it may not be vain.

Again I invite you to come to our Fair. Meetings will be held each night at the hall of the Society for agricultural discussion, and in other respects you will find much to interest you. A. H. DREWRY, President Virginia State Agricultural Society.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—This address was intended for the 10th of October No. of the Society's Journal, but was received after this No. had gone to press. It is therefore issued as a supplement, and commended to our readers for its timely and valuable suggestions. Our country exchanges in the State will please copy it for their space to spare. Excursion trains, referred to by the President, will be run on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st inst. at rates so low that all may come. For several years past the attendance at our Fairs has been large, but it must be admitted that a majority of those present were from the cities, drawn together by the attractions we were able to present; and it has been a matter of regret to the Executive Committee that the farmers of our State have not attended in greater numbers. I am aware that they have for years past labored under greater disadvantages than any other class, and that from a succession of discouraging seasons, with the loss of their labor, and consequent loss of their credit, and comparatively less ability to carry on their operations have been obliged to borrow—if indeed they could borrow at all—upon inconvenient terms and at unreasonable rates, so that they have some reason for being depressed, but none for being disheartened. They should remember that they are the Commonwealth, the one upon which all others depend. It is a fallacy to suppose there is not as much profit in the cultivation of Virginia lands to-day as there was before the war, and there is no necessity for the citizens of our State (especially the younger men) upon whom their future depends) deserting her at this hour. Emerging as she did, with shattered fortunes, from a most desolating war of four years' duration, all that we have since experienced is nothing more than we might reasonably have expected, and today we are in the midst of the near approach of more prosperous times, we have much to encourage us. It is true that a large portion of our lands in East Virginia are not so rich as those of the far West, but our proximity to market, with a salubrious climate and the best society, make them more valuable than property that they are the easily doled with the means which we enjoy—especially such as were originally of good soil. Before the war the opinion was held by many of Virginia's best farmers that it was less expensive to improve land of this character than to cut down and to clear up lands of greater fertility, and since we have then had less cause for complaint, I see no reason why capital and enterprise should not be made to pay as well in the improvement of our lands, such as need it, as in any other way; and when the present transportation rates, which discriminate so much in favor of the western producer, are equalized (as most surely will be the case) we will have less cause for complaint.

There are other portions of Virginia which are amongst the most favored of the world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

Again I invite you to come to our Fair. Meetings will be held each night at the hall of the Society for agricultural discussion, and in other respects you will find much to interest you. A. H. DREWRY, President Virginia State Agricultural Society.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—This address was intended for the 10th of October No. of the Society's Journal, but was received after this No. had gone to press. It is therefore issued as a supplement, and commended to our readers for its timely and valuable suggestions. Our country exchanges in the State will please copy it for their space to spare. Excursion trains, referred to by the President, will be run on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st inst. at rates so low that all may come. For several years past the attendance at our Fairs has been large, but it must be admitted that a majority of those present were from the cities, drawn together by the attractions we were able to present; and it has been a matter of regret to the Executive Committee that the farmers of our State have not attended in greater numbers. I am aware that they have for years past labored under greater disadvantages than any other class, and that from a succession of discouraging seasons, with the loss of their labor, and consequent loss of their credit, and comparatively less ability to carry on their operations have been obliged to borrow—if indeed they could borrow at all—upon inconvenient terms and at unreasonable rates, so that they have some reason for being depressed, but none for being disheartened. They should remember that they are the Commonwealth, the one upon which all others depend. It is a fallacy to suppose there is not as much profit in the cultivation of Virginia lands to-day as there was before the war, and there is no necessity for the citizens of our State (especially the younger men) upon whom their future depends) deserting her at this hour. Emerging as she did, with shattered fortunes, from a most desolating war of four years' duration, all that we have since experienced is nothing more than we might reasonably have expected, and today we are in the midst of the near approach of more prosperous times, we have much to encourage us. It is true that a large portion of our lands in East Virginia are not so rich as those of the far West, but our proximity to market, with a salubrious climate and the best society, make them more valuable than property that they are the easily doled with the means which we enjoy—especially such as were originally of good soil. Before the war the opinion was held by many of Virginia's best farmers that it was less expensive to improve land of this character than to cut down and to clear up lands of greater fertility, and since we have then had less cause for complaint, I see no reason why capital and enterprise should not be made to pay as well in the improvement of our lands, such as need it, as in any other way; and when the present transportation rates, which discriminate so much in favor of the western producer, are equalized (as most surely will be the case) we will have less cause for complaint.

There are other portions of Virginia which are amongst the most favored of the world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

Again I invite you to come to our Fair. Meetings will be held each night at the hall of the Society for agricultural discussion, and in other respects you will find much to interest you. A. H. DREWRY, President Virginia State Agricultural Society.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—This address was intended for the 10th of October No. of the Society's Journal, but was received after this No. had gone to press. It is therefore issued as a supplement, and commended to our readers for its timely and valuable suggestions. Our country exchanges in the State will please copy it for their space to spare. Excursion trains, referred to by the President, will be run on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st inst. at rates so low that all may come. For several years past the attendance at our Fairs has been large, but it must be admitted that a majority of those present were from the cities, drawn together by the attractions we were able to present; and it has been a matter of regret to the Executive Committee that the farmers of our State have not attended in greater numbers. I am aware that they have for years past labored under greater disadvantages than any other class, and that from a succession of discouraging seasons, with the loss of their labor, and consequent loss of their credit, and comparatively less ability to carry on their operations have been obliged to borrow—if indeed they could borrow at all—upon inconvenient terms and at unreasonable rates, so that they have some reason for being depressed, but none for being disheartened. They should remember that they are the Commonwealth, the one upon which all others depend. It is a fallacy to suppose there is not as much profit in the cultivation of Virginia lands to-day as there was before the war, and there is no necessity for the citizens of our State (especially the younger men) upon whom their future depends) deserting her at this hour. Emerging as she did, with shattered fortunes, from a most desolating war of four years' duration, all that we have since experienced is nothing more than we might reasonably have expected, and today we are in the midst of the near approach of more prosperous times, we have much to encourage us. It is true that a large portion of our lands in East Virginia are not so rich as those of the far West, but our proximity to market, with a salubrious climate and the best society, make them more valuable than property that they are the easily doled with the means which we enjoy—especially such as were originally of good soil. Before the war the opinion was held by many of Virginia's best farmers that it was less expensive to improve land of this character than to cut down and to clear up lands of greater fertility, and since we have then had less cause for complaint, I see no reason why capital and enterprise should not be made to pay as well in the improvement of our lands, such as need it, as in any other way; and when the present transportation rates, which discriminate so much in favor of the western producer, are equalized (as most surely will be the case) we will have less cause for complaint.

There are other portions of Virginia which are amongst the most favored of the world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

Again I invite you to come to our Fair. Meetings will be held each night at the hall of the Society for agricultural discussion, and in other respects you will find much to interest you. A. H. DREWRY, President Virginia State Agricultural Society.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—This address was intended for the 10th of October No. of the Society's Journal, but was received after this No. had gone to press. It is therefore issued as a supplement, and commended to our readers for its timely and valuable suggestions. Our country exchanges in the State will please copy it for their space to spare. Excursion trains, referred to by the President, will be run on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st inst. at rates so low that all may come. For several years past the attendance at our Fairs has been large, but it must be admitted that a majority of those present were from the cities, drawn together by the attractions we were able to present; and it has been a matter of regret to the Executive Committee that the farmers of our State have not attended in greater numbers. I am aware that they have for years past labored under greater disadvantages than any other class, and that from a succession of discouraging seasons, with the loss of their labor, and consequent loss of their credit, and comparatively less ability to carry on their operations have been obliged to borrow—if indeed they could borrow at all—upon inconvenient terms and at unreasonable rates, so that they have some reason for being depressed, but none for being disheartened. They should remember that they are the Commonwealth, the one upon which all others depend. It is a fallacy to suppose there is not as much profit in the cultivation of Virginia lands to-day as there was before the war, and there is no necessity for the citizens of our State (especially the younger men) upon whom their future depends) deserting her at this hour. Emerging as she did, with shattered fortunes, from a most desolating war of four years' duration, all that we have since experienced is nothing more than we might reasonably have expected, and today we are in the midst of the near approach of more prosperous times, we have much to encourage us. It is true that a large portion of our lands in East Virginia are not so rich as those of the far West, but our proximity to market, with a salubrious climate and the best society, make them more valuable than property that they are the easily doled with the means which we enjoy—especially such as were originally of good soil. Before the war the opinion was held by many of Virginia's best farmers that it was less expensive to improve land of this character than to cut down and to clear up lands of greater fertility, and since we have then had less cause for complaint, I see no reason why capital and enterprise should not be made to pay as well in the improvement of our lands, such as need it, as in any other way; and when the present transportation rates, which discriminate so much in favor of the western producer, are equalized (as most surely will be the case) we will have less cause for complaint.

There are other portions of Virginia which are amongst the most favored of the world, in the great material interests of the land—agriculture, stock-breeding, mining, and manufactures—which are supplemented with all the advantages of health and climate, these portions of our State are greatly blessed. During the past summer I have had the pleasure of visiting some of these sections. In the Southern Piedmont, Washington, and Pulaski counties; but there were other counties, such as Botetourt, Roanoke, Montgomery, &c., equally worthy, which it was not my pleasure to see. In Piedmont I passed through the beautiful counties of Albemarle, Orange, Culpeper, and Fauquier, which appeared prosperous and plentiful; and from thence into the great county of Loudoun, where I saw more good land in a body from a view on No. 6 farm, the property of Mr. H. G. Dugan, than I ever saw in any county of the North or the South. The valleys of the Rappahannock and the James, noted for the time the general approval of the people of Virginia because it was a settlement, upon more liberal terms than had ever been suggested by any of the many financiers and economists who had figured largely in the Legislature upon the subject of the public debt. The general idea was that now we were to have peace. The settlement brought the necessary revenue to pay the cost of government and of the public schools and the interest on the public debt within the revenues of the State. The surprise that was caused by the opposition and the organization of a party against the "peace settlement" we all know created widespread astonishment and brought out the Conservative party of the State with unprecedented energy and ability. The campaign has been one as gratifying to the Virginia people as it has been surprising. It is strange how, indeed, the opposition to the law has been raised at all, much less that it has kept up. A cause so entirely without reason, and so wanting in any argument that can show that it can be for the public good, that everybody is lost in wonder as to what motive actuates the few persons who are tramping about the State and agitating and haranguing the people about what it is impossible for them to understand, and that is without argument and without sense. And still the form of inveigling and denouncing everybody better than themselves continues. The "settlement" is the best ever mooted, and there is no difficulty whatever in the way. Unquestionably we have a measure that is without an objection, and which is a law beyond the reach of opposition, and which is without the shadow of an excuse for public complaint or opposition. MAHON alone is the complainant against it. It is he who dictates the wrangling of the few destructives who are going up and down the land. Were the Little General dead not a word of opposition would be heard now against the "peace settlement" of the Virginia debt. For fifteen years that Little General has kept Virginia in constant turmoil and apprehension. At the present time he alone is the trouble. This is the Commonwealth put to trouble and excitement, with no good reason, by the most inconsiderable of things. As we go on towards the conclusion of this most remarkable of public excitements we shall understand the nature of it better, and begin to see that the play is fortunately near its end. The fifth act is close by, when the author of all the evil will be exposed and brought to a just retribution.

Again I invite you to come to our Fair. Meetings will be held each night at the hall of the Society for agricultural discussion, and in other respects you will find much to interest you. A. H. DREWRY, President Virginia State Agricultural Society.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—This address was intended for the 10th of October No. of the Society's Journal, but was received after this No. had gone to press. It is therefore issued as a supplement, and commended to our readers for its timely and valuable suggestions. Our country exchanges in the State will please copy it for their space to spare. Excursion trains, referred to by the President, will be run on the 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st inst. at rates so low that all may come. For several